NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

July 12, 1996

CENTER FOR CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING AND CHANGE

ISLAND OF THE SUN RESEARCH PROJECT ON TELEVISION

Associate Curator **Chip Stanish** (Anthropology) appeared on "Discovery Magazine" on the Discovery television network, Sunday, July 7 for his archaeological research program on the Island of the Sun, Lake Titicaca, Bolivia. Chip and a team of scientists are working to define the human use of the island through time, including the use of the island as a ritual sanctuary. Chip will also be working with BBC-Horizons this summer. The television network wants to film his research to provide an anthropological background for mummy worship, as the Island of the Sun may have played a large role in such worship in Andean culture.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

The exhibit **Cajun Music and Zydeco** in Webber Gallery has been extended through January 26, 1997.

TEMPERATURES RISIN'!

Contributions for the staff segment of "CONNECTING: The Campaign for the Field Museum" have come in from all areas of the Museum. If you've lost your letter of explanation about the campaign and don't have the energy to dig under your desk stratigraphy call one of us listed below. You must have seen the nifty "100%" buttons reflecting our attempt to get 100% staff participation in the campaign. We, the staff organizers of the Staff Campaign, thank all staff members for joining us in the effort, and remind you of reason #35 suggested by an anonymous donor, ***"Give to even out the temperature in the building!"***

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CONSTRUCTION BRIEFS

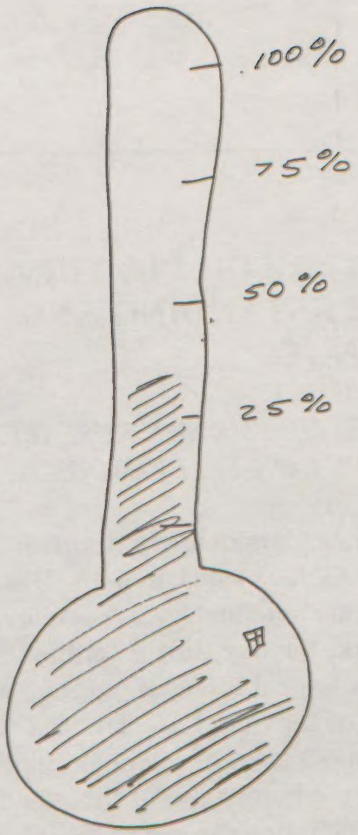
Special Exhibit Hall construction continues with infrastructure work and planning for finishing touches (e.g. carpeting and painting) in the future. Life safety issues continue to be a major planning focus. Contractors will be entering mainly through the dock area, although plans are being made to bring in certain kinds of heavy or large materials and equipment via the ramp on the south side. Some workers will be starting at 6:30 a.m. The Dino Store will be relocated in late summer or early fall and the space currently occupied by the Dino Store will become the Special Exhibit Hall's mechanical room.

Continued on last page

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN continued

Call or come see us!

854	Beth Adams	Education
870	Cindy Andresen	Women's Board
881	Paul Baker	Development
377	Ray Bondoc	Visitor Services
832	Ben Bronson	Anthropology
627	Lori Breslauer	Academic Affairs
361	Dan Brinkmeier	Education
366	Lucy Bukowski	Finance
217	Jaci Carter	CCUC
681	Mary Chiz	Exhibits
250	John Engel	Botany
291	John Flynn	Geology
540	Joe Halik	Accounting
240	Martina Hough	Exhibits
289	Sandra Johnson	Personnel
420	Nadine Kendra	Museum Affairs
882	Richard Koontz	Administration
421	Chris Mailander	Exhibits
360	Anita Morgan	Education
533	Frances Muraski-Stotz	Exhibits
228	Ernst Pierre-Toussaint	Maintenance
386	Anita Purnell	Visitor Services
272	Mary Anne Rogers	Zoology
631	Alaka Wali	CCUC
542	Lisa Wodis	Finance
338	Elaine Zeiger	Geology



Thanks!
Carolyn Blackmon - Staff & Volunteer Campaign Chair

My Dear Colleagues,

Last week I participated in the Twin Cities-Chicago AIDS Ride as Chicago rider number 791. In six days I rode my bicycle 480 miles between Minneapolis and Chicago to raise money for thirteen different agencies that provide vital services to people with AIDS and HIV disease. 1,425 riders and 300 crew members participated in the event: you may have noticed news coverage of our return to Chicago on Saturday. The Ride was a profound and life-altering experience, and the most successful AIDS fundraiser in the midwest in history: together the riders raised five million dollars, which exceeded everyone's hopes and expectations. I want to thank all those at the Museum who supported me with financial sponsorship of my ride: **Sandy Boyd, Doug DeWitt, Carolyn Klyce, Richard Koontz, Jennifer Noe, Mike Paha, Kent Peaslee, Bill Turnbull, Susan VandenBosch, Will White**, and **Elaine Zeiger**. Special thanks go to **John Flynn** and **Bill Simpson**, who were generous both with financial support and with moral and logistical encouragement. Special thanks also to my lab partner **Steve McCarroll,** who contributed financially and endured countless tedious hours of talk about bicycles and training. And my deepest gratitude goes to **Matt Matcuk** in Development, an accomplished cyclist who gave freely of his time and expertise to help prepare me for the physical challenge of hundred-mile days. To these people and all the others who offered their moral support I owe a great debt: I could not have done it without you all, and from the bottom of my exhausted heart I thank you.

-- **Andrew Leman**, Geology

FOOD SERVICE DISCOUNTS FOR STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Effective August 1, 1996, there will be some important changes in the discount policy for Staff and Volunteers who purchase food in McDonald's and Picnic in the Field.

- Picnic in the Field and McDonald's will continue to offer a 20% discount to Field Museum Staff and Volunteers upon presentation of their appropriately marked Field Museum I.D. badge. *The appropriate marking will consist of the words "Staff" or "Volunteer" on the badge with a gold, holographic sticker in the lower right hand corner.*

IMPORTANT!

Current staff and volunteer ID holders will not receive new ID's -- just the holographic stickers. These holographic stickers will be distributed to eligible staff and volunteers on Monday, July 22, Tuesday, July 23 and Wednesday, July 24 in the following manner:

Monday, July 22:	**West Door**	**6 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.**
Tuesday, July 23:	**North Door**	**7:45 a.m. to 9 a.m.**
Wednesday, July 24:	**South Door**	**7:45 a.m. to 9 a.m.**

If you are unable to get your sticker at one of these times then you may obtain one any day between 11 a.m. and noon in the Security Equipment Office on the Ground Floor. You must have your sticker by August 1 to receive your 20% discount at Picnic in the Field or McDonald's.

Volunteers will receive their sticker through the Searle Volunteer Coordinator.

- *The 20% discount at Picnic in the Field and McDonald's is for the badge holder only. Guests, family and friends of a badge holder will not be granted the discount.*

- Lending of Field Museum I.D. badges to non-employees or other individuals to obtain a discount is not permitted. Anyone found to be lending her/his badge can be subject to disciplinary action.

- Food Service staff are part of the Field Museum family. Respect and courteous behavior toward them is expected of all Field Museum employees and volunteers.

Please note: Policy regarding discounts for non-staff/volunteer visitors to the Museum (e.g. staff of other Museums, Park District employees, contractors, outside vendors or visitors) is entirely within the discretion of McDonald's. It is our understanding that McDonald's does not plan to continue the discount to non-staff/volunteers.

Questions? Call **Jim Lowers** (x888) or **Marilyn Martinson** (x524)

CENTER FOR EVOLUTIONARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

NATIONAL MALACOLOGY MEETING AT FIELD MUSEUM GREAT SUCCESS

The Field Museum hosted the 62nd Annual Meeting of the American Malacological Union (AMU), from June 29 to July 3, with 180 researchers from thirty US states (plus DC and Puerto Rico) and fourteen other countries attending. Highlights of the meeting were a "shell" symposium, a freshwater mollusk symposium, a collection management workshop, and a field trip to study the land freshwater mollusks of the region. The meeting set an AMU record for student participation as well as for the number of posters exhibited. The event was cosponsored by The Field Museum and the Chicago Shell Club, and received various kinds of support from the Illinois Natural History Survey, the Illinois Institute of Technology, the Shedd Aquarium, and *Chicago* magazine. Response from participants has been extremely positive about the meeting, The Field Museum and the City (participants had the chance to enjoy a special tour of the **Spiders!** exhibit, a special rare book exhibit arranged by Librarian **Ben Williams**, an architecture river cruise, the Taste of Chicago, and the fireworks). In-house "social" activities included a reception in the Rice Wildlife Research Station, and a very lively banquet and dance in Stanley Field Hall.

Many Museum departments were involved to make this meeting a success, and many individuals went far beyond regular job requirements to help with preparations and last-minute requests, ranging from design and printing to humoring "exotic" A/V requests. Far too many staff members deserve thanks for us to be able to mention everybody by name, but AMU President **Rüdiger Bieler** and the meeting organizing team of **Margaret Baker, John Slapcinsky, Paula Mikkelsen, and Petra Sierwald** (Zoology, Invertebrates & Insects) would like to thank the following units for their tremendous support: **Academic Affairs, A/V, Computing, Education, Engineering, Exhibits, Housekeeping, Library, Maintenance, Museum Store, Photography, Printing, Public Relations, Security, Special Events, and Visitor Services**.

BIELER OFF TO LONDON TO PLAN WORLD CONGRESS OF MALACOLOGY

Now wearing his hat of President of the International Malacological Society, Unitas Malacologica (UM), Associate Curator **Rüdiger Bieler** (Zoology) spends a part of this week in London. Meeting with the other members of the UM Council, plans will be discussed for the First World Congress of Malacology, to be held in summer of 1998 in Washington, DC.

ROBERTO CIPRIANI DEFENDS DISSERTATION

On July 15, University of Chicago graduate student **Roberto Cipriani** (Zoology) (who designed the great AMUŒ96 T-shirts that you have seen around) very successfully defended his dissertation proposal to work on marine pyramidellid snails. Congratulations, Roberto!

The *Natural News* is edited by **Carolyn Klyce** in the President's Office. The deadline for all submissions -- in WordPerfect on floppy disk or via email to klyce@fmppr.fmnh.org -- is Tuesday at noon. Printed on recycled paper.

BIODIVERSITY EXPLORERS WELCOMED TO THE FIELD

On June 27, The Field Museum welcomed the arrival of the 1996 Biodiversity Explorers high school interns: **Bertha Alaniz, Mike Fonte, Mario McHarris, Genevieve Nano**, and **Tomisha Smith**. The participants in this year's program were selected from applications received from students attending public and private high schools throughout the Chicago area. The Biodiversity Explorers program is designed to introduce exceptional high school students to the biological sciences as a career choice. Through this program, now in its second year, the five high school juniors are working at the museum for eight weeks, in a busy summer program of field collecting trips, laboratory work, lectures and behind the scenes tours. This summer, as last, the students will work closely with the Museum's fungal survey program, collecting macrofungi (mushrooms and their allies) on field trips to the Indiana Dunes and the Cook County Forest Preserves. Their program will dovetail with The Field Museum's local survey programs and Chicago Wilderness initiatives (see below), which seek to document and conserve the extraordinarily rich biodiversity of the Chicago region.

The Biodiversity Explorers are joined in their efforts by Post Doctoral Research Associate **Jack Murphy** (Botany), program assistant **Gina Wesley** (Academic Affairs), University of Chicago graduate student **John Paul Schmit** (Botany), University of Chicago undergraduate student and intern **Debora Arguete** (Botany) and high school student and intern **Ismial Morrar** (Academic Affairs). Ismial was a Biodiversity Explorer last summer and was invited back as the Museum's 1996 Wood intern.

INSECTIVORE SPECIALIST IN MAMMAL DIVISION

Research Associate **Rainer Hutterer** (Zoology), a leading figure in systematics of insectivorous mammals and Curator of Mammals at the Museum Alexander Koenig in Bonn, Germany, is visiting the Mammal Division for two weeks, to work with Associate Curator **Larry Heaney** (Zoology) on their monographic study of shrew systematics; this includes description of a new species, genus, and tribe of shrews from the Naga Hills of India, based on a specimen that lay unidentified in our collections for 40 years. He is also working with Research Associate **Julian Kerbis** and Collection Manager **Bill Stanley** (both Zoology) on manuscripts resulting from their field work in East Africa, including several new species from threatened mountain forests.

PREHISTORIC MAMMALS STAMPS ISSUED WITH ASSISTANCE FROM JOHN FLYNN

In April, 1994 Nina Thompson of PhotoAssist, a photo research firm in Washington DC consulting with the U.S. Postal Service, called The Field Museum's Geology Department to ask if we had a scientist on staff who would be knowledgeable about, and willing to advise them on, the accuracy of four illustrations of prehistoric mammals--"Eohippus," Woolly Mammoth, Mastodon, and "Saber-tooth Cat"--which were slated to be used in an upcoming series of postage stamps. Happily, we had just the guy. **John Flynn**, Chairman and MacArthur Curator of Fossil Mammals, agreed to look at and comment on the initial artwork for the proposed stamps. He provided detailed critiques of all four images, advising the consultants on everything from muscle definition and coloration, to fang size, ear placement, and scientific names. Flynn's exacting input, and his recommendation that the artist consult the classic murals of prehistoric life by Charles Knight, resulted in substantial improvements to the final product. Ms. Thompson, the consultant, declared that Flynn's expertise was instrumental in making important changes to the designs. The U.S. Postal Service released the fossil mammal series this summer, and the Ashfall Fossil Beds State Historical Park, in cooperation with the Royal, Nebraska Post Office, provided a special pictorial cancellation for the stamps' first day of issue.

CHICAGO WILDERNESS RESEARCH PROJECT TO DOCUMENT RESTORATION EFFORTS AT SWALLOW CLIFF

The Field Museum has received funding to participate in a Chicago Wilderness Project to document restoration effects in an oak-woodland community at Swallow Cliff. This project will document for the first time the impact of current management practices on different types of organisms, including vital soil-associated species, to assess the success in restoration of native oak-woodland communities. A team of biologists from four Chicago Wilderness institutions (Cook County Forest Preserve District, The Nature Conservancy, Illinois Natural History Survey and The Field Museum) will inventory various organisms -- from fungi to rove beetles to birds-- in a fire suppressed oak-woodland community, before and after management through brush removal and burning. The project will identify species that can serve as reliable ecological indicators for efficient assessments of restoration/management efforts.

Participants from The Field Museum include:

From Botany:
Associate Curator **Greg Mueller,** Postdoctoral Research Associate **Jack Murphy**, Collections Manager **Qiuxin Wu**, University of Chicago students **John Paul Schmit**, **Michelle Eskridge**, and **Deborah Arguete**, University of Illinois at Chicago student **Sara Foster**, Wood intern **Ismial Morrar**, Biodiversity Explorers high school interns **Tomisha Smith**, **Mario McHarris**, **Mike Fonte**, **Genevieve Nano**, **Bertha Alinez**

From Zoology:
Insects: Associate Curator **Al Newton**, Adjunct Curator **Margaret Thayer**, Collection Manager **Dan Summers**, Curatorial Assistant **Phil Parillo**, intern **Olga Helmy**
Birds: Director, Office of Environmental and Conservation Programs **Debby Moskovits**, Assistant Curator **John Bates**, and Conservation Ecologist **Doug Stotz** (ECP)

ROCKY ROAD TO ROMANCE: FIELD MUSEUM GEOLOGISTS WED

Wedding bells pealed (metaphorically) on June 14 for groom **Greg Buckley** (Geology) and bride **Bridget Camp** (now Buckley). Who says there's no romance in science?--it was a mutual interest in things geologic that first brought the happy couple together. Greg and Bridget met two years ago when Bridget worked as an intern in the Geology Dept, and they got to know each other when she accompanied him on a field trip to the Crazy Mountains Basin in Montana -- fittingly enough, since before long they were *crazy about each other!* The Buckleys are now back at work after a wonderful week of sunning, fishing, and fossil hunting in Florida. Congratulations to Greg and Bridget from all of your Field Museum friends!

Construction Briefs continued from page 1

Beautification of the grounds has begun. This will include attention to the lawn (mowing, seeding, weeding, edging, fertilizing); attention to the trees (mulching, pruning, removal of dead wood); planting and maintaining some flower beds (south bus island); repair of various holes and removal of construction debris. Some work will begin on the terraces this summer, but long-term design for those areas will commence in the fall. The ***Campaign Center*** (formerly Dining Room A) work is progressing and should be completed in mid-July. Questions? Call **Carolyn** (x642) or **John** (x380).